

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 255672

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TO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA IMMEDIATE

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 255672

EXDIS, TOSEC 133

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, BR

SUBJECT: BRAZILIAN AMBASSADOR DISCUSSES POLICY PLANNING

TALKS

REF: STATE 254361 (TOSEC 64)

1. DURING CALL ON ASSISTANT SECRETARY ROGERS NOV. 18 TO DELIVER FOREIGN MINISTER SILVEIRA'S LETTER TO THE SECRETARY (REFTEL) BRAZILIAN AMBASSADOR ARAUJO CASTRO MADE RATHER VAGUE REFERENCE TO "MISCONCEPTION" REGARDING PURPOSE OF POLICY PLANNING TALKS PRESUMABLY IN THE MIND OF HIS FOREIGN MINISTER. ARAUJO CASTRO INTERPRETED SILVEIRA'S LETTER AS SEEKING TO ESTABLISH THAT, DESPITE FACT POLICY PLANNING GROUP WAS VISITING OTHER COUNTRIES AND DEALING WITH GLOBAL AND REGIONAL ISSUES, WHEN IT CAME TO BRAZIL IT WOULD BE REGARDED AS A PRELUDE TO THE SECRETARY-SILVEIRA MEETING AND THEREFORE BE EXPECTED TO DISCUSS BILATERAL ISSUES.

2. RESPONDING TO BRAZILIAN AMBASSADOR, ROGERS WARNED THAT TIME PROBABLY WOULD NOT PERMIT AN OFFICIAL REPLY, BUT THAT UNOFFICIALLY HE COULD ASSURE SILVEIRA THAT WE HAD NO
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PAGE 02 STATE 255672

OBJECTION TO POLICY PLANNING GROUP DISCUSSING BILATERAL

ISSUES WITH GOB IN THE BROAD CONTEXT CONTEMPLATED IN HIS LETTER. ROGERS POINTED

OUT THAT, IF GOB HAS PARTICULAR PROBLEMS TO WHICH IT WAS SEEKING SOLUTIONS, OUR DECISION-MACHINERY WAS IN DEPARTMENT. BRAZILIAN AMBASSADOR DID NOT THINK THIS WAS THE CASE.

3. WITH REFERENCE TO SILVEIRA'S DESIRE TO CAST POLICY PLANNING TALKS AS PRELUDE TO SECRETARY-SILVEIRA MEETING, ROGERS STRESSED THAT WE WOULD NOT REGARD THEM AS THE ONLY PRELUDE. WE FULLY EXPECTED, HE INFORMED ARAUJO CASTRO, THAT AS TIME TO ORGANIZE SECRETARY'S TRIP APPROACHED, WE WOULD WANT TO DISCUSS MORE FULLY THE SUBSTANCE OF THE ITEMS SLATED FOR THE AGENDA.

4. IN RESPONSE TO ROGERS QUERY REGARDING TIMING OF SECRETARY'S VISIT TO BRAZIL, BRAZILIAN AMBASSADOR STATED SILVEIRA WOULD ACCOMMODATE TO SECRETARY'S SCHEDULE UNLESS, OF COURSE, HE HAD OBVIOUS CONFLICT, SUCH AS BEING IN THE MIDDLE OF A STATE VISIT. INGERSOLL

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